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## COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD

NORMAN J. COLMAN, EDITOR.

Published every Wednesday, in Chemical building, corner of Eighth and Olive streets, St. Louis, Mo., at one dollar per year. Eastern office, Chalmers D. Colman, 620 Temple Court, New York City. Advertisers will find the RURAL WORLD the best advertising medium of its class in the United States. Address all letters to COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, Chemical Building, St. Louis, Mo.

While the RURAL WORLD is published at one dollar a year, it has temporarily allowed old subscribers to send actually NEW OR TRIAL subscribers with their own subscriptions at fifty cents a year, in order to largely increase the circulation and influence of the paper. This price is less than the cost of the white paper, presswork, folding, wrapping, mailing and prepaying the postage, saying nothing of any other of the large expenses of maintaining offices, paying salaries and conducting such a paper in a large city. Renewals, unless accompanied by one or more NEW subscribers must be at one dollar a year. All names are dropped as soon as subscriptions expire. The month named on the address tag, pasted on each issue, shows the month subscriptions expire, and renewals should be made two or three weeks before, so that names shall not drop out of list. It is gratifying to the proprietor to be able to state, in his half century's experience in conducting this paper, it has never enjoyed the patronage and prosperity it now does. Its circulation is increasing in a wonderful degree, and its advertising patrons, many of whom have used its columns for a quarter or a third of a century, are more than pleased with results. Let all our friends unite and press forward in extending its sphere of influence. It will do for others what it is doing for you, so get others to join the great RURAL WORLD army and receive the same benefit.

The summer meeting of the Missouri Horticultural Society, held last week at New Haven, Mo., was well attended, and as is always the case with meetings of this organization, it was an enjoyable and instructive occasion. Two of the papers presented at the meeting appear on page three of this issue and others will follow.

### THE TUBERCULIN TEST.

In publishing in this issue the concluding article of the series by Prof. Thomas Shaw of the University of Minnesota, we take occasion to say that we think the opposition of breeders and particularly importers of pure bred cattle to the tuberculin test is unwarranted, and ill advised. We are glad to have had Prof. Shaw set forth the situation at length in our columns, and to have had Dr. Luckey, the Missouri State Veterinarian, announce fearlessly his position in the matter.

The dissemination of tuberculosis is too serious a matter to be treated in any but a bold manner, and broad-minded spirit. Were the ravages of the disease confined to the bovine race it would be serious, but when we contemplate the annual destruction of human life by this cause, to fail to make use of any accredited means of restricting the spread of the disease is criminal.

### HELP OUT THE PASTURES.

Farmers are more and more understanding the value of a continuous supply of succulent foods for stock, and there is much effort on the part of all the experiment stations to test the value of forage crops that will tend to prolong the pasture season. Most of the grasses now in common use are injured by the usual summer drought, and then the pastures are dried up. The value of the cow pea as an adjunct to the pasture is being recognized, and farmers will do well to study the adaptability of this crop to their localities. Cow peas may be sown after grain is harvested, and will grow quickly if there is moisture enough to sprout them. The seed bed should be firm. While they may be sown broadcast, yet most farmers prefer drilling them in. If all the tubes are used a fine forage will be secured, though some recommend using every other drill tube. Usually a bushel and a half of seed is sown per acre.

Cattle or sheep may be turned on them when the peas have reached the blossoming stage. The land on which has grown this crop of cow peas can be disked once or twice late in August or early in September and sown to rye. It will be best to cross disc the second time. When rye is intended for fall pasture, there should be not less than two and one-half bushels of seed sown per acre. It should be kept closely grazed so that it will not joint, for when it joints its power to produce much pasture or good pasture is destroyed.

### WE ARE ALL HIRED HANDS.

We publish the conclusion of Mr. W. D. Wade's thoughtful article on the Hired Man Question on this page, and cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that it is a very helpful, thoughtful article—one which should do employers and hired hands good to read. Of course, we know that Mr. Wade's, Mr. Marshall's, Mr. Shattuck's and all the other excellent articles on this subject that have been published in these columns during the past few months will not settle and eliminate the hired man question, yet we cannot but think that they have done good to many a reader who employs farm help and others, who are at present "hired hands."

The present writer has been a hired farm hand, has also been an employer of hands. We agree with Mr. Wade that we are nearly all "hired hands."

### AGRICULTURE IN RURAL SCHOOLS.

It is, of course, obviously impossible for a paper to make its position on all questions of interest to its readers clear in each and every article; so it is not strange that Mr. T. B. Harwell of Tennessee should not know from reading a "sample copy" of the RURAL WORLD how long and earnestly it has contended for just what he pleads in his able article on this page, namely, the teaching of the elements of agriculture in our rural public schools. We question if there is a paper published that has had more to say in advocacy of this proposition than has the RURAL WORLD, and the present writer has acquired the reputation throughout Missouri of being a "crank" on the subject. At least, we used to be looked upon as a "crank," and our ideas were said to be "nice in theory, but impractical." But we are glad to state that the proposition to teach elementary agriculture in the rural schools is rapidly becoming very popular in Missouri, and our State Department of Education, co-operating with the State Agricultural College and State Board of Agriculture, is making preparations to put work of that character into the schools, as will be seen by the communication from Superintendent Carrington in the RURAL WORLD of June 5.

We will continue to press this matter and will be pleased to have the assistance of so able an advocate as Mr. Harwell.

### CATCH CROPS.

Plant Cow Peas, Sorghum or Sweet Corn on Out or Hay Land.

The unfavorable weather conditions that have prevailed throughout Missouri and many of the adjacent states have seriously damaged the oat crop in these sections, and also reduced the yield per acre of hay. Unless provision is made now for this shortage of these two crops, many farmers will be paying low prices for them next winter.

Our graze-farmers were considered educated if they had a knowledge of the three "R's"—reading, "ritin" and "rithme." A boy now must have a knowledge of the sciences and know English well and be able to interpret all foreign phrases to be considered fairly educated. The same condition exists with regard to the crops grown on the farm. A resourceful farmer must know more than corn, wheat and oats. If such a farmer can't have the oat bin full, he knows there is a chance for a silo; if he can't have timothy hay, he knows that cow peas hay is a valuable food, and can be grown after the hay crop has shown itself a failure. Then he knows the merits of sorghum and sweet corn. When a crop has been lost, it requires pluck to plant another the same season, but here is just where many a man in the commercial world wins success. He may have delirious pressing him, yet he will try another line and win.

Some of these crops can be planted late as July 1, and give good results. If the crop depended upon for forage or for the one to balance the corn ration has been wholly or partially lost, try a few cow peas, a sorghum patch or one of sweet corn.

We ask particular attention to C. D. Lyon's article on cow peas on this page.

### THE HARDSHIPS OF THE FARMER.

Many boys reared on the farm are prone to think their lot is especially a hard one. Many of them do have to rise before the sun and keep at it until after the sun sinks to rest; and for the boy whose life is all work and no play we have that kind of sympathy which the boy wants us to feel and tactfully show in a tact manner, but never talk to him about. But there are farm lads who when sent to the garden to pick a mess of beans or peas, will spend as much time chasing butterflies or watching a bird as will take to get the vegetables. Then, if mother reproves because of the delay, they will think they can't have any fun. Perhaps this boy is sent to water the calves and much of the time will be spent trying to ride one of them or playing with it. The ways in which a boy can spend time (we don't say idle) when sent to perform some task on the farm other than in performance of the assigned duty are legion; and we know of no place of more subtle temptation to neglect the chore and to have the attention directed to other channels. The odor of flowers, the whirr of the bird, the buzz of the bumble

bee, etc., etc., are a boy's temptations to forget the set task. The scoldings and the punishments that follow we well know; but despite them, most farm boys are permitted to leisurely do the chores required of them, and they are not compelled to keep up the galloping pace that makes boys develop into machine men.

Contrast shows us things that we often fail to see when the case is kept isolated; think of the little city lad's obligation to hurry. A bright boy of about ten stepped into the office in response to a call for a messenger boy. He was obliged to wait while a telegram of ten words was written and the address of the party to whom the message was sent, together with the signature of the sender. Not five minutes were occupied in the writing. The little fellow nervously picked up the message and hastily started for the door, when he rushed back, saying: "Oh, I had to wait." Such exacted promptness characterizes the life of these messenger boys, and those in other lines of activity in the city. They must respond to the demand and ever be on the rush in order to keep their positions, or the boy waiting outside for a place steps in and is employed. And the result is many fall into a treadmill existence which destroys individuality. Don't think a city boy's life all fun, and yours all work. There are two sides.

### PEEBLES FROM THE POTOMAC.

Editor RURAL WORLD: The Year Book of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1900 is now in press. This publication will be ready for distribution about the first of July. In addition to the report of the Secretary and the appendix, this volume will contain 11 articles, in which each division of the original work is represented. A feature that is of interest is the publication of requirements for admission to the Agricultural Department of the land-grant colleges, and the cost of attendance. The Year Book will contain nearly a thousand pages, embellished with numerous illustrations. The edition will be half a million copies, all of which by law are reserved for the exclusive use of Congress, with the exception of 30,000 copies, which are for the departments. Those who desire copies must apply to their Senators or Representatives in Congress. It is safe to say that this publication will be replete with valuable and interesting articles, treating as it does on a variety of subjects of interest to every farmer. The subjects discussed are handled by writers who have thoroughly investigated the themes, hence are worthy of careful consideration. The articles include: "Smyrna Fig Culture in the United States," "Amplification of Weather Forecasts," "Commercial Plant Introduction," "Forest Extension in the Middle West," "Influence of Rye on the Price of Wheat," "Mountain Roads," "Fungous Diseases of Forest Trees," "Rabies," "The Scale Insect and Mite Enemies of Citrus Trees," "How Birds Affect the Orchard," "Hot Waves," "Potatoes as Food," "Practical Forestry in the Southern Appalachians," "Commercial Pear Culture," "Development of the Trucking Interests," "The Date Palm," "Practical Irrigation," "Free Delivery of Rural Mails," and "Successful Wheat Growing in Semiarid Districts." This book will make a volume that can be read at odd times, and if the farmer is too busy to read this summer, he can surely find time in the long winter evenings when the feeding and chores have been done and the evening lamp lighted. This book deserves a circulation many times larger than the edition contemplated. In the thrifty farmer's library it is an invaluable acquisition.

THE FARM.—From reports we learn that in England the tendency of the population is drifting toward the great cities, away from the pleasant fields in the city—buying automobiles of energy. The fact here as well as abroad, farm life does not suit the population of today as well as it did our forefathers. Thousands of the best young men are eager to engage in commercial enterprises with the hope of winning wealth. Where one rises, thousands fall. We hear of one who succeeds, but of the many who fail we hear nothing. The plain fact is, those who succeed in life must toil, be it in the counting-room or on the farm. To succeed, means perseverance. "Difficulties are things that show what men are," said Epictetus. After all the poetry and romance of life on a farm have been discussed and given full value, the fact remains that there is plenty of hard work to be done—difficulties to be overcome. But we contend that the chances are better for the young man on the farm than in the city—buying automobiles of energy and perseverance being exercised. A few acres grow gradually into a broad farm to the thrifty. Looking forward to a peaceful old age, spent in the midst of prosperous and smiling meadows and woodlands, inspires the toiler to extra exertions. To the multitude who forsake the farms for the town the majority feel no impulse to persevere. To those who feel like their labors are productive of no permanent results on the farms, spend a few hours in the crowded city and note the condition. The practical problems of life must be solved by each individual. The successes of this one and that one are lessons that should inspire us toward renewed activity. The rush to the city to compete with the thousands who are in search of employment, is often a mistake

that cannot be readily corrected. Too often good opportunities are thrown to the winds in an undue haste to better surrounding conditions. We believe the farm offers better inducements to the young man of today than nine-tenths of the jobs in the city, where too often the small wages, paid barely keep body and soul together. True, there is hard work sometimes and a condition that requires diligent attention. A noted divine has struck the key-note of success, which applies equally as well on the farm as in the counting-room, by saying:

"Perseverance is characteristic of a man who has accomplished anything great. No matter what opposition he meets or what discouragements overtake him, he is always persistent. Drudgery cannot disgust him, labor cannot weary him. He will persist, no matter what comes or what goes. It is a part of his nature. He could almost as easily stop breathing. It is not so much brilliancy of intellect or fertility of resource as persistence of effort, constancy of purpose, that gives success. Perseverance always inspires confidence. Everybody believes in the man who persists. He may meet misfortunes, sorrows and reverses, but everybody believes that he will ultimately triumph, because they know there is no keeping him down. Does he keep at it—is he persistent?" This is the question which the world asks about a man. Even a man with small ability will often succeed if he has the quality of persistence, where a genius without it would fail.

Therefore, we believe that the tendency of the rural population drifting cityward is a move in the wrong direction, when it is actuated solely to better prevailing conditions. A persistent and careful cultivation of the soil can lead to but one logical conclusion—success! Washington, D. C. S. F. GILLESPIE.

### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

Editor RURAL WORLD: I have before me a sample copy of the RURAL WORLD. After careful examination, I am much pleased with it, but I am too old to add another, however excellent, to the list that finds its way to my table. I have been giving the best thoughts to the education of the farmer for 25 years, and I heartily agree with you that if agriculture is to take its proper position in the economical and financial world, the educated farmer is an essential requisite in the premises.

Your very favorable reference to Prof. McBryde's "Elements of Agriculture," and remarks in that connection with it, suggest this letter to you, and prompt me to say that whilst reading your sample copy, it occurred to me it would be an ideal and up-to-date agricultural journal if it earnestly advocated the elementary study of agriculture in our common schools. The educated farmer and a higher agriculture surely await that step.

The advancement of the farmer himself, and better farming, for which we are anxiously looking, and for the want of it. If rural education, as we have been acquainted with it for almost a century, had been sufficient for the education in question, there had been no need of Prof. McBryde's book or of a number of others that have been prepared in later years.

Col. Killebrew and Dr. Dabney of our state have both recently extolled the educated farmer and the higher education to the skies in their eloquent speeches, and men have been making such speeches for the last century. What we want is the education and not the praise of it. Very few in our state whose environment would permit them to attend the agricultural college are doing so, whilst the mass is simply starving for the little that is possible through the public schools, and as an earnest educator in our state should have some education along this line, it should be remembered that it is only possible to him through the public school. If nine-tenths of the education in the United States, as statistics show, is done in the public schools, it is obvious that a large majority can not be reached otherwise.

Were elementary agriculture taught to every boy in our public rural schools, we should have thousands of inquiring, thinking, intelligent farmers, instead of the almost entire absence of such.

If you want to get the farmers to thinking, put something in their minds to think about whilst we can control their education. The empty mind of an adult is usually impervious to truth. Only the boy who has studied elementary agriculture in the public school will have valuable and stimulating facts to occupy his mind in farming; the other boy's mind is a blank, and will daily lose its aptitude for the storage that would have been of easy accomplishment at the proper time. The educated farmer is a product of the schools. The clodhopper is the product of the farm and field, though some may pick up much useful information by the wayside.

There are educators in every state and

some able and useful agricultural journals that could take up this matter and inaugurate a grand revolution in the premises if they would. I believe the RURAL WORLD is one of them.

I feel like my experience and association have given me the right to talk about these things; yet I feel that I am presumptuous in thus writing to you.

I believe that such study in the schools would soon set all our agricultural population to thinking along progressive agricultural lines. It would make agricultural education in our homes as familiar as a household word and would give a new aspect to it and book farming.

Tom Reed, of Congressional fame, has recently said: "It takes education to appreciate education." Force the elementary study of agriculture in the public school as you do grammar, geography, etc., and there will be something useful to remain when all else of the public school education has faded from the average pupil's mind except the little practical use of the three "R's" for which he has daily use.

But I shall weary your patience in my desire to do good. Please excuse the liberty I have taken, but don't forget this line of paramount usefulness. Giles Co., Tenn. T. B. HARWELL.

### COW PEAS.

Editor RURAL WORLD: The readers will remember that in the past when I was writing on this subject I have sometimes said that "on our strong clay loam soil we do not really need the cow peas." Now I am going to correct that statement right here and say, that as we better understand the cow pea and its uses, we better realize its value on any and all soils, and as we break up some outlying spots of the richest, strongest, toughest clay on the farm where we grew cow peas last year we find that it is on just such land that the plant does the best work.

There was one especially tough corner of a point last year where we ran out of seed oats. Said I, "no matter, the oats would all fall there anyway, and we will plant cow peas on it." It was planted to black-eye peas late in May, scattering the seed rather thickly in drills two and one-half feet apart. They were given one hoeing and the whole crop allowed to rot down just where it grew. This spring the rotten mass of vines was plowed under and the plowman remarked on the excellent condition of the soil as compared with the oat stubble where the soil is of a much finer grade.

Trying to see how late cow peas could be sown to mature, last July 17, I shoveled over a corner of a stubble field, about 40 x 60 feet, and broadcasted nearly three quarters of Early Blacks, harrowing them in; Sept. 20, three-fourths of the pods were ripe.

These were allowed to rot down and in April we broke an acre and one-fourth along the side of the field where the peas grew. This plot is our experimental ground, and is all planned in advance. The peas grew. All the tomatoes were matured lightly, and the cutworms have taken several of the plants, making them rather uneven, but any one can tell at a glance where the cow peas stopped, as there the best tomato plants stop.

There were a lot of wild plum sprouts at the north end of our garden on a bank of very intractable clay soil. I grubbed one sprout last spring and is all planted in the soil pretty well over. My little boy planted the spot, which is about 18 x 25 feet, in cow peas; the chickens were allowed to harvest them, and now the ground is loose and fine.

These are a few cases where the peas were grown simply as catch crops, and in each case on good soil, but of a bad mechanical texture. They improved the soil and at the same time loosened it up until it compares favorably with any soil on the farm, which is a point in their favor that must not be overlooked. We saved our own seed and planned to plant about half an acre this year, but as we began to see the real merits of the plant, we broke up several places where grass seedling failed last year, and now have three times our intended crop planted and will continue to plant as long as we have a seed left.

Now, friends, suppose that someone would offer to sell you a ton of high-grade fertilizer of a two dollar bill; everyone of you would jump at the offer and you would be doing a wise thing in securing so much plant food at such a nominal price; but here is a proposition which will enable you to secure an amount of plant food fully equal in quantity to that contained in a ton of good fertilizer, and at the very price I mention. Buy a bushel of cow peas and plant them on two acres of land, rather thickly in drills two feet apart, do this at any time up to July 1; then if you can do so turn the hogs on them, just as the first pods turn yellow, and see what kind of an extra crop they will put in the hogs' tails.

Then in the spring turn under what the hogs have left, and grow the best crop of corn you have had on that plot of land since the war. Ten years experimenting with the cow pea has proven to me that it does best if not planted too thick, and I do not plant more than 25 pounds per acre; but if to be mowed for hay, they must be drilled or broadcasted at the rate of at least a bushel and a peck per acre.

We grow considerable oats and clover hay, and have never as yet needed to cut cow pea hay in large amount; but what we have cut and cured has been more than satisfactory.

Let me again urge all who have their land or tough clay spots in fields to sow or plant cow peas for the benefit of the soil. Of course, one can get much more out of them by harvesting or pasturing, but it will pay 1,000 per cent on the investment to plant them to go down on the land as fertilizers, and even as late as July 1. C. D. LYON.

Brown Co., Ohio.

### THAT HIRED MAN QUESTION.

(Concluded from Issue of June 5.)

Editor RURAL WORLD: A dissatisfied man no one wants, not even if a brother. I keep two men with families on separate farms. They hire for an indefinite time at a stipulated price per month, and at any time they become dissatisfied, they give me a month in which to relieve them and I shall give them not less than a month's notice when I, from any cause, can no longer use them. This works no hardship; we avoid the unpleasantness of trying to work together when either of us is not satisfied.

In passing around one is amazed at the homes and surroundings furnished hands by men who are well able to furnish good comfortable homes. No number one hand will take his family into a little one or two room "box" shanty for a home for a year, with no fenced yard, no garden, but with everything desolate and dreary.

Such homes may answer for a few months, but when an employer said to me, "If you get a hand with a good wife it has much to do with the efficiency of the man." Show me a hand whose housekeeper is the personification of filth and laziness, and I'll show you a man you will not want long enough to grow a turnip crop.

There are "unprofitable servants" in all walks of life, but I think those on the farm get more free advertising than those of other vocations. An employer should be a fair judge of human nature, and make some use of it when employing men. As a matter of fact, we are nearly all "hired men;" then why farm hands should be a target for all manner of adverse criticism I cannot understand. Among our "hired hands" we should enumerate our physician, attorney, preacher, teacher, etc.; and these are entitled to no more respect than our farm hands; provided, always, said farm hand is a gentleman. No one doubts there are "professional gentlemen," so called, whom we would disgrace ourselves and families by treating with the same respect we should an honorable farm hand.

To be of the most worth a hand should at all times have his employer's interests at heart, and unless he has his of little genuine worth as a hand to take control of a farm and stock during the temporary absence of the farmer.

To encourage the best of service we should give the men oldest in service the advantage in equipment and teams, and yet an employer's directions should always be strictly adhered to. We can keep a good man too long sometimes, until he ceases to appreciate his situation. In such cases it is best to quietly work him out and give him a chance, like the Prodigal Son, to come to himself. You see, Mr. Editor, some of us can't stand prosperity, and nothing short of a touch of adversity will bring us to realize how well fixed we were.

It is the floating, restless, dissatisfied hand who gives unsatisfactory service, and is constantly hunting a job and picking up and moving. As good a hand as ever worked for me became suddenly possessed with a desire to "move," and on a week's notice spent all he had for an old rickety wagon and blind team, and loaded up his plunder and family, just at the beginning of winter, taking his little children away from good, convenient schools, depriving them of suitable clothing, simply to, in a measure, please an insatiable desire for a change. The money squandered in that moving outfit would have furnished a very scantily clothed family with abundant winter clothing, and his wages would have been unbroken, but he was the moving kind, having the moving habit. Three or four months were long enough for him at one job.

Men of experience tell us that it's the stayer in anything who makes a success. Plenty of our best farmers and owners of good farms began as hirelings, and they stuck to it until they had saved enough to warrant buying a small farm to begin with. These men have no apology to make for their humble start, rather, they are proud of it, and enjoy relating their early hardships.

Since writing the foregoing I have read Lafayette Co., Mo., Melange on front page of the RURAL WORLD of May 22. If any subscriber has overlooked it, he should hunt up the paper and read it. I call to mind one of our most prosperous citizens who started out in life when

a youth as a cheap clerk in a country store. By being honest, earnest, industrious and working for his employer's interest he acquired and developed the characteristics which guarantee success. Truly the good hired man is not a "hired" man many years if he makes the proper use of his means and meets with no reverses or misfortunes. I say success to him, but he must prove himself worthy of success or he shall surely not succeed. Pettis Co., Mo. W. D. WADE.

### SHELBY'S SUGGESTIONS.

Editor RURAL WORLD: Whilst your readers are experimenting with tobacco, bi-sulphide of carbon and other remedies for bean weevil, let them not lose sight of the cheapest and best remedy of all, that is to plant later in the season. For seed and for cooking dry, plant beans and peas as late in the season as possible and have the crop mature, and you will have no trouble with weevil. Try this once and report.

VALUE OF WOOD ASHES.—Would it not be correct to say to every one cultivating clay land, "You cannot use too many ashes." This is the experience of farmers hereabout, as far as I know. If you have other loose clay land, study conditions to ascertain whether it will pay to use ashes—wood ashes, as coal ashes are valueless on all land—but if you have clay land do not debate the question for a moment—get all the ashes, leached and unleached, possible.

CURING SORGHUM FODDER.—May I ask if any of the RURAL WORLD readers have had trouble in curing sorghum and sorghum fodder, that had been cut and bound with a self-binder? Last fall killing frosts were tardy in arriving in this section, and many cut this fodder green, and, as far as I know, in every case the center of the bundles, though they were in some cases very small, molded. My remedy for this would be to wait for a frost that killed the leaves, late it might be, for no one can afford to mow either of these crops. It is all it is worth to handle loose, in quantities, but if it is all right.

DOES SORGHUM IMPOVERISH THE SOIL? Decidedly no; at least not to the extent one would suppose at first thought. The roots run very deep and bring to the surface from the subsoil valuable material that largely compensates for the plant food used in making growth. It is stated positively by those who have tried it that the longer a particular patch is planted to sorghum for sirup purposes, the better and the larger the yield of sirup will be. I am not personally able to say as to this, but I have seen it planted year after year in the same place, and never yet heard of a case where it was thought advisable to change the location of the sorghum patch, because it had run out. What has been the experience of your readers along this line? Shelby, Missouri.

### THAT SORGHUM EXPERIENCE.

Editor RURAL WORLD: It takes time and forethought, as well as experience to get the best results from the farm.

That sorghum experience of ours last year was against the fates, or we had the worst side of it. We failed to get a good stand of the first planting, and by the time the replanted was up, the weeds had gotten such a start that we had to hoe it two or three times.

About a week before it was ripe a windstorm laid it low. A part of it straightened up, but the most of it was in the shape of a rainbow, which made the stripping and handling difficult. We were six miles from the nearest mill that made good molasses, and we wanted the best for sorghum molasses is good, when it is good, but when it is bad it is horrid. So, altogether, we came out at the head of the horn on that deal. Sorghum as a feed for stock is all right. I have used it for two years. C. A. BIRD.

### AN OREGON LETTER.

Crops of all kinds look well, although wheat will be rather short. Some that were intended for grain will be cut for hay. Hay making will begin in about two weeks. Cheat and oats are raised for hay; no clover or alfalfa.

Rain is needed, but is not likely to come, as the dry season is almost upon us. On May 25 a hailstorm visited the head of the Willametta Valley, doing much damage over an area of 10x15 miles.

In the Umpqua Valley rain was accompanied by constant but not loud thunder. Both hail and thunder are unusual here.

Wild strawberries are plenty but small and tedious to pick. Young turkeys are doing well. Many farmers raise from 100 to 200 each season, which sell at from nine to thirteen cents per pound.

A Portland man went by the other day who said he had been in Eastern Oregon buying horses of the Indians for a Portland packing house, paying from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per head. He had been buying for several years. He said the meat was canned and shipped to foreign countries.

Southern Oregon is anxious to drill for oil, and a company has been organized and stock offered to the public at ten cents per share, one-third down. Cheap enough, surely, if the printing is neatly done. O. E. S. Douglass Co., Oregon.







## HORTICULTURAL TALKS.

## ARE PLUMS WORTH GROWING?

The third plum crop was in Duncannon Perry Co., Pa. A trip of 16 miles was taken to visit this. The man showed me his plum patch, in which were many of the most improved varieties, some just getting ripe. These were also propped to keep the limbs from breaking. The idea of thinning out fruit was not to be thought of.

But what is the matter with your trees was asked the owner, as they were

### STRAWBERRY CULTURE--EARLY

O. W. BLACKNALL.  
Vance Co. N. C.

If the boy wants to plant something to bring him in some pocket money, let him have a piece of land on which to raise pop-corn. There is always a market for it at a good price, especially near a large town or city.

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If you feed and water stock, it will pay to get a **U. S. HART'S FEED WORKS**, St. Louis, for their illustrated Catalog of Feed Cookers Hog Troopers Tanks, etc.

variety has deteriorated both as to size

many varieties grown and advertised in nurseries as improved Heath, such as Miller Cling, Wilkins, Ringold, Marsh moth Cling, etc., but none are equal to the old Heath Cling grown in Perry County thirty years ago, and known there as the English peach. There are also many so-called improved Crawfords, such as Susquehanna, Chair's Choice, Wheatland, etc. None I know of are any better than the old Crawford of thirty years ago. All are shy bearers and ripen at a time when

## GINSENG CULTURE

WANTS A REMEDY FOR ROBERS

P. C. BROWN & SON.  
Montgomery Co., Kas.  
Note what Judge Miller and Mr. M.  
Callen say about borers in the RURA  
WORLD of June 5.—Editor.

MANAGEMENT OF THE APIARY, NO.  
4—SWARMING.

## BEES AND HONEY ON THE FARM.

sections sooner than they would if allowed to occupy the whole space of the

brood chamber. To arrange the hive to  
this purpose two frames were removed  
These were taken from the side facing  
toward the north—the hive entrance fr  
the south. The frames were removed fr  
now composing the brood chamber was  
on the south side. A division board wa  
to fit the inside of the hive was put  
close up against the outermost fram  
thus shutting off the space left by th  
frames that had been removed. To p  
vent the bees from getting into this sh  
the entrance of the hive was covered  
board, the top of it was covered with  
nicely fitted piece of thin board.  
All this John carefully attended to;  
there he transferred the bees from th  
swarm box to the hive. Besides, he a  
understand the value and use of com  
the material and the supplies were  
termost frame with full sheets of w  
others with "starters" of it. Thus p  
pared, the hive was ready for the swar

The land is largely chocolate or black sandy loam, deep, rich, capable of producing forage crops in great abundance. It is thickly coated with buffalo, mesquite, grama, sedge and other choice grasses. Rainfall ample for production of forage crops, grapes and fruit. Admirably adapted for

**SEEDS** STOCK PEAS  
**CHAS. E. PRUNTY,**  
MAIN AND MARKET SAINT LOUIS  
STRIPPED BLUE-GRASS SEED WANTED

**IN THE GARDEN.**  
For pamphlet address B. HAMMOND, Fishkill-on-Hudson, New York.

For principal reasons, John knew, why the above described piece of mischief should be "nipped in the bud." First, it was necessary to success that the queen should begin laying in the brood frames, not only because that is the proper place for brood rearing, but also because any egg laying

**POSITION OF THE HIVE.**

The beehives should always be placed so that when one desires to open them or to do any work about them he can stand at the back side of them. To stand in front of them is to be directly in the line

In which the cells are capped over the cappings of the cells will be round the cells drawn out past the usual surface. In worker brood the cap level is a more normal level than in the queen cells. These queen cells are ordinary worker cells which are forced to rear drones in, hence they extend to some extent. These drones are as large as the perfect drones, and may be preferred to use as breeders. The production of such a queen is highly desirable, as the queen is the one that soon dwindles down and the colony becomes extinct. In a few instances queens have been properly fertilized and have done good service well at once in drone layers, or partially so from year to year, and it may not occur until the next year, and again in the queen cells. The queen may be put out in a short time perfect in production and a good breeder.

There will end "Mrs. Winslow's Essay" the Best Essay for Children to

## CIDER PRESS

One-third more cider with the  
**HYDRAULIC**  
than with the old style press.  
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COMBINE**

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kind of Fruit and  
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**GINSENG.** All about this money-plant for 2 cent stamp.

day C. D. NUSBAUM, Jonesboro

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**MONEY IN BEES**

Send for our 40 page catalog FREE  
full information about bees, hives,  
up-to-date supplies and methods.  
JNO. NEUBEL & SON, High HU

## STARK TREES SLUGGED

**STARK BROS.** Largest Nursery. **OTHERS**  
Fruit Book Free. Result of 76 years  
**STARK BROS., Louisiana, Mo.; Dan**

**BURPEE'S** SEEDS GROW. Illustrations free. **BURPEE, F.**

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**T. B. PEYTON**, Manager, Mexico

**COUNTRY PRODU**

Consignments solicited and quick returns guaranteed. Our location the best in the city for top prices. Correspondence promptly answered.

**ST. LOUIS SEED AND PRODUCE**  
1107 N. 3rd St., St. Louis, Mo.

# RAPE

It pays to sow Dwarf Rape which has not only been the most valuable forage plant in existence for Sheep, Hogs or Cattle in June or July. Cost about 35 cents per acre; seed: yields 30 tons per acre. Our seed is grown in Essex, England, and is extra pure. Descriptive circular and sample free if you mention this paper. **IOWA SEED CO., Des Moines**

## DRONE LAYING QUEENS

A queen that produces drones of frequent occurrence, and such are to be destroyed at once. These are common in young queens that in any way do not receive proper fertilization. It may occur from the queen being unable to fly owing to bad wings, but a young queen is worth saving if she has not perfect wings. A queen must fly and fly perfectly to become mated, as she must meet the drone bee in the air, which she does when she is a few days old. Such queens will begin to lay eggs even if they fail of fertilization, but we can detect them very early, from

A drone laying queen will deposit very irregularly in the cells, and deposit more than one egg in some cells also do not lay regularly in the cells eggs here and there, thus some cells and in no way lay regularly as a properly fertilized queen we fail to detect her shortcomings, but we can easily detect her weakness is nearly grown and the cell is capped, owing to the coarseness and growth of the grub, and also the

in which the cells are capped over the surface, the cells will be rounded up and the cells drawn out past the surface. In worker brood the cap will level with a more smooth level than in the queen cells.

These queen cells are not ordinary worker cells, which are to rear drones, in, hence they extend to some extent. These drones are as large as the perfect drones, and may be used as breeders. The production of such a queen is a very long process, and the queen when soon dwindles down and is extinct. In a few instances queen cells have been properly fertilized and done good service but at once the drone layers, or partially so from cause, and it may not occur until a second year service, and again the queen begins to lay eggs and to die in a short time perfect in production and a good breeder.

Mother's will read "Mrs. Winslow's Syrup" the Best Remedy for Children To











## Home Circle.

### THE SOUL'S SPRING CLEANING.

Yes, clean yer house, an' clean yer shed,  
An' clean yer barn in ev'ry part;  
But brush the cobwebs from yer head,  
An' sweep the snowbanks from yer heart.

Yes, w'en spring cleanin' comes aroun'  
Bring forth the duster an' the broom,  
But rake yer fery notions down,  
An' sweep yer dusty soul of gloom.

Sweep ol' ideas out with the dust,  
An' dress yer soul in newer style;  
Scrape from yer mind its worn-out crust,  
An' dump it in the rubbish pile.

Sweep out the hates that burn an' smart,  
Bring in new loves serene an' pure;  
Aroun' the heartstir of the heart  
Place modern styles of furniture.

Clean out the dirt, scrubby-holes,  
Sweep out the morri, curby off the scum;  
'Tis cleanin' time for healthy souls—  
Git up an' dust! The spring has come!

Clean out the corners of the brain,  
Bear down with scrubbin'-brush an' soap,  
An' dump ol' Fear into the rain,  
An' dust a cozy chair for hope.

Clean out the brain's deep rubbish-hole,  
Soak ev'ry cranny, great an' small,  
An' in the front room of the soul,  
Hang pooter pictures on the wall.

Scrub up the windows of the mind,  
Clean up, an' let the spring begin;  
Sweep open wide the dusty blind,  
An' let the glorious sunshine in.

Plant flowers in the soul's front yard,  
Set out new shade an' blossom trees,  
An' let the soul, once from an' hard,  
Sprout crocuses of new ideas.

Yes, clean yer house, an' clean yer shed,  
An' clean yer barn in ev'ry part;  
But brush the cobwebs from yer head,  
An' sweep the snowbanks from yer heart!

S. W. FOSS.

Written for the RURAL WORLD.  
KNOWING THEM BY NAME.

Our utter inability to call by the name the various plants we meet in our walk down the roadside or in our rambles through the woods at times makes us painfully conscious that our education has been deficient. Many a bright little beauty peeping at us from among a group of plants is known to us only as a "spring flower." Its name is Greek to us, and its manner of growth or reproduction is still more enigmatical.

A young lady in a rural district gave an entertaining tale to her friends, and she was determined not to have one of those stiff sit-still affairs that so often characterize country gatherings of young people who are not very much acquainted. A friend had given her a hint. She so decorated her home with wild flowers and then made a collection of as large a number as possible of the wild flowers growing in her vicinity. These she brought home with root, stem and leaves and put in small boxes, cans and some on plates. If this could not be done the flowers were at least secured. With taste the home was made to look beautiful with these wild-wood and prairie beauties. Then a pencil and paper were given each guest, and each one was required to write the name of all the plants known to him or her. Each plant or flower was numbered, and the name of the plant was to be written opposite its number.

The effort to create a social atmosphere was a triumphal success as it gave some one to talk about. Then, too, many a lad and lass realized how lacking they were in knowing the names of the plants they had always been familiar with. They found calling them "flowers" was rather indiscriminate. They also found in the collection flowers and plants that they had never before seen, because their eyes were not open to see them.

Now, is it not true that our boys and girls on the farm are not even trained to note the various grasses that grow in various localities on the farm? Do they not invariably call the clovers grasses?

Then, do we teach them to know the various trees in the woods near by and to call them by their proper names?

On one occasion a modest woman who dearly loved flowers was in company with the writer when viewing a bed of geraniums. And it was a lesson never to be forgotten, as she tenderly touched the several plants and called them by name, not indiscriminately—geraniums. One, the charming La Favorite, another Mrs. E. G. Hill, another Madame Salleron, were all called by name as if they had been daughters in her family. This knowledge was largely obtained from flower catalogs. I could not but think how we do throw away our opportunities.

The very fact that we know the names of the wild flowers and trees in our locality will make us more observing and teach us to note their individual characteristics and this habit formed will be of help in our gardens and orchards. We will note the plants more carefully and insect ravages will be noted before the plants are denuded of leaves.

So neglected has been this phase of the education of the children on our farms that a corn expert stated recently in our hearing that very few farmers were able to recognize more than two or three varieties of corn and these were yellow, white and pop corn. This statement may be somewhat overdrawn, but do our boys really know many varieties of corn? Is not the same true of varieties of apples?

The time to develop the perceptive faculties which enable one to note differences even when the similarities are quite close, is in childhood. The powers of observation are then most acute, and memory is also then most capable of cultivation. The children then love flowers and the learning to know the flowers and calling them by name will be a delight and not a task. Teach them to gather bouquets of violets, hepaticas and adder's tongue and later in life when in the orchard they will eat Malden Blush and Baldwin apples, etc., and in the vineyard will gather Concord, McPike or Delaware grapes.

MRS. MARY ANDERSON.

Caldwell Co., Mo.

Has been used for over sixty years by millions of mothers for their children's ailments while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain; cures wind colic, whooping cough, croup, and all other ailments. It is the only remedy that is safe for the child. It is the only remedy that is safe for the child. It is the only remedy that is safe for the child.



MRS. ELLA CARPENTER.

With this issue we are pleased to give to our readers the photo and sketch of the life of one of the RURAL WORLD'S long time correspondents. We know the Home Circle readers will be pleased. Mrs. Ella Carpenter was born in Fairview, N. Y., Jan. 27, 1883, according to the old family Bible. She was married to Mr. C. E. Carpenter of Schenectady, New York, at the age of 17 years. They have five children living. Her father was a minister for over 40 years; a man whose life was spent among books.

Her love for writing is inherited. Her grandmother's name was Locke; she was a direct descendant of John Locke, the statesman and writer. He wrote the "Essay on the Understanding," you remember, Robert Ross Locke of the Toledo "Blade," better known as "Petroleum V. Nasby," was a kinsman of hers. Hannah Moore, the writer, was a relation; besides had a dozen lesser lights in literature.

It will soon be a quarter of a century since Mrs. Carpenter began writing for the RURAL WORLD. At the beginning of her work she was very successful as a writer, getting some compensation from journals, and many kind notices from people of literary standing. But nearer, more sacred duties claimed her time and strength; so she gave up writing for the press except an occasional contribution. She has ever believed woman's best place was in her own home, caring for those dependent on her. To raise her children aright has been her heart's desire. She has traveled much and has hosts of friends everywhere she is known; which is a comfort to her, now that home work is shared by others and she has time to take up her pen again.

The prospects of success are very bright once more. Her pathway through life has been through much tribulation. She has kept the desire of her life thus far, her faith in God and humanity, though the latter is badly shaken at times.

This glimpse of the life of Mrs. Carpenter discloses why her articles have been so prized by RURAL WORLD readers—a good heritage, lofty aims and conscious purpose to do the duty that is markedly one's own, even if it be to perform the quiet, unheralded to the world home cares rather than to have a name written where men see. The former choice writes names in hearts and in character, while the latter may beguile unlovely ambitions. The words from the pen of such an unselfish life will sink deeper than from the one who only desires to win fame for fame's sake.

Written for the RURAL WORLD.  
A FRIENDLY CALL.

Is there room for me again in the dear old Circle, after my long absence? Though bereavement and affliction have been my lot since my last appearance, I have never forgotten the warm hearts and sympathetic words to be found within its charmed portals. There is truth in the poet's words, "Though lost to sight, to memory dear," and the pleasant interchange of experience and friendly comment found in our Home Circle page have brought a gleam of sunshine to brighten many a weary hour during the long months that have passed since last I took up my pen to add my mite to its cheerful columns.

But do not be frightened, Mr. Editor! I have not brought my burdens along to inflict them on my H. C. friends, in this my first call after my long absence.

"Into each life some rain must fall. Some days must be dark and dreary."

But we do not need to make them darker by sombre looks, nor add to their dreariness by being dreary ourselves. Let us look only on the bright side of life, and "live in hope, if we die in despair."

Ah! Now we will stop moralizing and come down to plain business. Mrs. McVey's letters are like angel's visits, "few and far between." Nevertheless, how breezy and brisk and cheerful they are, when they do come! They bring a whiff of the farm air, and a breath of new-mown hay, and of apple blossoms, and they tell of her hardships, and trials, and triumphs, without a word of whining! Those of us who can read between the lines, know that Idyll is a busy woman. In the midst of her numerous duties in and around her new home, her pen is never idle.

Mrs. Cody is another writer whose letters are always brimful of interest and practical good sense. I was delighted with her defense of our canine friends. Even the humblest cow possesses the quality of loyalty and fidelity to his owner, and surely such a quality should cover a multitude of sins. Mrs. Cody is another busy farmer's wife, who finds time to wield her pen in various directions, and a charming story in a high-class Boston magazine of recent date goes to attest her success in this field.

C. D. Lyon, I cut out your recipe for improved cottage cheese, and have it safely put away in my most cherished cook book, in readiness for use at the first opportunity.

I read Ella Carpenter's letters and those from her daughter, with great interest. Ella was one of the old Home Circle band, which has been sadly thinned by time.

I should like to greet each member, old and new, with a personal greeting and shake of the hand, but was that a brown paper bag case I saw for the suffering Editor? How time flies! Well, I must really cut my visit short.

Next time I come I will bring with me a recipe for drop-dumplings, which some of my readers may like.

I am greatly interested in poultry matters and glad to read all letters on the subject.

NINA.

St. Louis Co., Mo.

## "PLEASE KEEP YOUR HENS AT HOME."

A maiden lady owned a piece of ground, And morn and eve in summer she was found Within her garden. But her neighbor kept A flock of hens, and while she worked or slept, With busy feet they dug her finest seed. In vain she chased them at her utmost speed, And "shooed" and stoned them—quite undignified, The while her neighbor laughed until he cried.

But women who can fowl the wiles of men, Will not be daunted by a Lethron hen. The hand that rocks the cradle, still can block Man's ridicule, and give his nerves a shock.

Our lady cried a bit—as was her right—Then took some cards and on each one did write, "Please keep your hens at home!"—a seed of corn She strung to each—with early break of dawn—

Back came the hens; they gobbled grain and siring— Then back for home they started on the wing. From every mouth there dragged the lady's card.

"Please keep!" he scratched his head—his heart was hard, But shame cut through it like a knife, and hence His hens no more flew o'er the lady's fence.

—Rural New Yorker.

Written for the RURAL WORLD.  
SPARE THOSE TREES.

"O, Mr. Cross, don't cut those trees down! Just put up your house north of them, so they will be in the yard; but close enough to throw a shade on your porch during the hot summer months. Leave them there through two summers, and then if you do not want them there, cut them down. But do wait and see. They are there for your pleasure and you will have to wait many years before you can have evergreens grow large enough to give you any shade for your house and yard."

"O, they are only oak trees," was the response. "You can plant them in the yard, too, there is plenty of room, besides evergreens grow so slowly and you are an old man. Do, please; just to please me, wait until fall, at least, before you cut those trees down. Plant any others you wish, but spare those three trees that long, and I'll come and sit on the porch with you, to help you enjoy your shade this summer."

"Well, I will leave them," he said, "just to please you, and build the house there where you suggest. I think that the best place for the house myself, and so do the girls."

Mr. Cross, who was a widower with two grown daughters, had just bought a piece of ground lying between the graveyard and the public road, a very pretty place for a home, with the forest trees yet standing. He was just in the act of cutting down the oldest trees in the lot and the ones nearest the road. I saw him as I was passing by on my way to Yandalla. The place is only about one mile from our home, and I was well acquainted with the family, so took an interest in what was to be their new home. When seeing what Mr. Cross was about to do, I got out of my buggy and went to him to try to persuade him not to cut the trees down. He did as I wanted him to, and the trees were left standing. He built his house and lived in it three or four years when he and the man that owned land joining his land got into a dispute about the line between them, and to settle it they got the surveyor (my husband) to survey the land. In order to do it he had to get Mr. Cross' deed for his land. In looking up the records, he found that the land had been given to trustees for a graveyard and church purposes many years before—over 20. The man who gave the ground for the graveyard and church had made the deed so that it could never be used for any other purpose. Of course, the deed that Mr. Cross had was not a warranty deed, and he could not hold the land. So he moved his house on to the other place; but had he staid there, he would not have lived to have seen his evergreen trees large enough to do him any good as a shade for his house. The deed was a beautiful shade for a large, nicely built M. E. church, where there is regular preaching, and where the young receive baptism and the marriage rite is performed, and the dead are placed in front of the altar while the minister tries to comfort the mourners in their bereavement pointing them up to a loving Father for hope and trust in a living faith, in a Savior's love, before they are laid out to the graveyard, which is so close, there to bury forever out of sight their loved ones.

I have often thought of how near those beautiful trees came being cut down, and would have been only for my pleading for them to be left standing. They were words spoken at the right time and in the right manner. ROSA AUTUMN.

Payette Co., Ill.

Written for the RURAL WORLD.  
A VISIT TO WOODSTOCK, ETC.

I had hoped to run in with my knitting ere this, and chat, but (now what shall I say—well, I didn't, that's all). Nevertheless, I have listened to the chat of others with an interesting ear, and Mrs. Cody's kind wish that I would be a tramp and come out there inspires me to "rise to remark" that I fully intend to do that same when vacation time rolls around, so as to give me a chance, for the delightful day Nina and I spent at her sylvan home last year lingers in memory like the fragrance of sweet clover. The picture comes back; a suburban street car ride through clover lots and bits of wood; a walk, and that walk enough to make anyone wish to turn tramp at that time of year, the end of May; trees, lawns and fields at their greenest; the air sweet with country scents and melodious with the songs of birds; at the end of the walk a farm and a vine covered cottage home in a nest of flowers; fruit trees; a ham-mock in the shade; a cordial welcome from old friends, and finally a dear brown dog with curly ears coming forth with as jolly a dog welcome as possible, and a cob in his mouth provided for our entertainment, so that we might throw it and catch it as long as patience lasted—ours; his patience was inexhaustible. It

was strawberry time, and that strawberry short cake—don't talk! Then a visit to "the farm spring" in the shade of noble forest trees and wild grape vines, and last of all a pleasant drive back to the street car line, with loads of flowers and lovely growing things to plant out in our bits of city yards. I'm going to be a tramp again as soon as possible.

I had the pleasure of a short visit from Mrs. Cody not long since, and a great pitcherful of snowballs, white lilacs, jonquils and other floral delights was a pleasant souvenir thereof for several days afterwards.

I always loved the country, and Mrs. McVey's farm chats are a great pleasure to me, though it is long since I actually lived on a farm.

Well, I'm interested in hearing from all the sisters (and the brothers, too) who write such homey letters for the RURAL WORLD, but I'm not going to talk to them all this time, or I'll wear out my welcome, and maybe not be let in next time. HARRIET.

St. Louis County, Mo.

OILED AND PAINTED FLOORS.

If you have never had your kitchen floor painted, do not allow another season to pass without trying it. Any woman can do the work. Paint of any color can be bought already mixed, and the amount of labor saved is so great that we often wonder why there should be a kitchen floor in the land that is not painted or oiled.

Scrub the floor and let it dry; then give it two coats of paint, allowing each coat plenty of time to dry. A little Japan dryer added to the paint will hasten the drying, which is important when one needs to use the room all the time. It is usually better to do the painting in the evening after the supper dishes are washed, and let the doors and windows open. If not quite dry in the morning, and you cannot cook breakfast in some other room, lay boards where you walk the most to keep it from being tracked. If you prefer an oiled floor to a painted one, get a gallon of linseed oil, heat a quart of it until it is almost boiling hot, and apply it with a clean paint brush. Two coats are usually needed.

The care of a painted or oiled floor is important if you would keep them in the best condition. Mop the floor once a week, using a soda made by adding a tablespoonful of pearline to two gallons of soft water, rinse it with clear water and wipe it dry. It is never necessary to use a scrub brush, and the water should not be hot. Try it, tired housekeepers, and see how much your labor will be lessened.—Kansas Housekeeper.

HIS REVENGE.

Arthur, who is forbidden to speak at the bar, had his revenge the other day. At dinner began he was uneasy, and finally said: "Ma, can't I speak just one word?" "You know the rule, Arthur."

"No one word?" "No, Arthur, not until your father finishes the paper."

Arthur subsided until the paper was finished, when he was asked what he wished to say.

"Oh, nothing. Only Nora put the custards outside the window to cool, and the cat has been eating them up!"—Ex.

GOOD RECIPES.

STRAWBERRY CUSTARD.—Make a plain boiled custard with six eggs (omitting the whites of two) one small cup white sugar, a pinch of salt, one quart rich milk and one teaspoonful lemon extract. Put a layer of strawberries in the bottom of a glass dish, sprinkle with sugar and cover with a layer of the custard, then more strawberries, and finish with the remainder of the custard. Whisk the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth with two teaspoons powdered sugar, and spread over the top just before serving. Have custard and berries very cold, and do not put together until just before time to serve.

REUBEN JAM WITH GINGER.—Cut the stalks into short lengths, and heat up gradually till the juice flows, using no water. Allow pound for pound of sugar and fruit. Stir, and cook till thick and rosy. To each pound of fruit allow a teaspoonful of ground ginger wet up with a little water and made smooth so it will not lump. Add to the jam, boil up, put into glasses and cover when cold.

FRENCH TOAST.—Beat one egg in a shallow dish, add a teaspoonful of sugar, a pinch of salt and one cupful of milk; soak six slices of stale bread in the custard, drain and brown them on each side on a well-buttered griddle; spread them with jelly or marmalade and pile them lightly on a dish. Serve at once.

The popular idea expressed in the phrase, "the art of self-defense," shows the opinion that the chief enemies a man has to defend himself from are visible enemies. But the art of self-defense of every man is from minute and often invisible foes. In the air we breathe and the water we drink are countless minute organisms leagued against the health of the body.

The one defense against these enemies is to keep the blood pure. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery thoroughly purifies the blood, removing poisonous substances and accretions. When the blood is pure there is no harborage for the germs of disease which find a lodging only when the blood is impure and corrupt.

I consider your "Golden Medical Discovery" one of the best medicines on the face of the earth," writes Mr. Wm. Fletcher, of Red Oak, Montgomery Co., Iowa. "While in the south-west, three years ago, I got poisoned with poison ivy. The poison settled in my blood and the horror I suffered cannot be told in words. I thought I would go crazy. I tried different kinds of medicine, tried different doctors, but all the relief they could give me was to make my blood worse. I then began taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I took it in ten bottles and kept taking it. I took Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation.

## Poultry Yard.

### A REMEDY FOR ROUP.

Editor RURAL WORLD: If Mrs. S. R. Lewis will try Cushman's Roup Specific she will find it will cure every time. I have tried every remedy I ever heard suggested or saw advertised, and it is the only thing that I ever saw that did the least bit of good. FRANK SMILEY.

Lincoln Co., Mo.

### NOTES FROM ORCHARD FARM POULTRY YARDS.

Editor RURAL WORLD: The hatching season is over at Orchard Farm. About 400 promising Light Brahmas and White Leghorns are clamoring for feed morning, noon and night. In the meantime they are chasing bugs and worms out among the fruit trees.

I like to hatch chickens early before the hot weather. If it is the "early bird" that catches the worm," it is the early hatched pullet that "lays the golden egg," i. e., the egg that sells for the most money in midwinter.

Why do not all farmers raise pure bred poultry? It costs no more after one once gets the start. It adds pleasure to the business and dollars to the pocketbook. Select one or more varieties according to your idea of what is most desirable. Study to improve their good qualities. Weed out the poor specimens.

To-day I have thoroughly whitewashed one of my houses, the one to be used for earliest hatched chicks. After whitewashing with lime and carbolic acid, I painted perches and cracks with a liquid lime killer. "Eternal vigilance" is not only the price of liberty, it is one of the essentials in the poultry business.

Henry Co., Ia. MRS. H. M. CROSBIE.

### CHICKEN GAPS.

Editor RURAL WORLD: About late roosting time, place affected chicks in a large basket (basket is preferred because of its perforated bottom), having previously provided a shovelful of fire coals and with a few tobacco stems or leaf tobacco placed thereon. Have a loose covering of some sort over the top of the basket to retain the smoke. Now hold the basket of chicks over the tobacco smoke until they are thoroughly drunk, after which place them quietly to bed; next morning you will discover this to be a "sure cure." I saw my good mother treat her chicks in this manner for 25 years without a failure. In our high altitude here chicks are not troubled with gaps.

Our better half has been interested in the incubator correspondence. Now let us hear from some of the sheep men, who used the sheep shearing machine. Our experience may be related later when I have heard fully from the manufacturers. H. C. J.

Miller Co., Mo.

### PRESERVING EGGS WITH WATER GLASS.

A subscriber asks for information regarding water glass as a preservative for eggs. The substance is known to chemists as sodium silicate. It can be obtained from druggists, who, if they do not have it in stock, can obtain it from their wholesale houses.

We repeat what was published in these columns a year ago: Of twenty German methods of preserving eggs the three which proved the most effective are coating the eggs with vaseline, preserving them in lime water and preserving them in water glass. There is a drawback to the water glass method; the shell easily bursts in boiling water. This, however, may be prevented by piercing the shell with a strong needle. This objection having been conceded, the water glass method heads the list, as varnishing the eggs with vaseline takes a great deal of time, and treating them with lime water is apt to give them a disagreeable odor. In most packed eggs the yolk, sooner or later, begins to settle on one side and the egg at once begins to depreciate. This does not happen when water glass is used, and the eggs retain a surprising freshness. In one test it was found that a 10 per cent solution of water glass preserved the eggs so effectively that at the end of three and a half months eggs that were packed on August 1st appeared perfectly fresh. A gallon of water glass, which will cost fifty cents, will make enough solution to preserve fifty dozen eggs.

### THE BRAHMA.

Of the Brahma, 30 years ago, Miss Watts, then a recognized English breeder, wrote, and her writings are now given for present day fanciers to think of. She said:

"I think all who keep Brahmas will agree with me in giving them a high place among our useful poultry. They are large, and put on flesh readily; they are good layers, good sitters, and good mothers; they are also very hardy, apt at keeping themselves in good condition, and under the unfavorable conditions of dirty weather, or of living much among houses, they decidedly keep up a clearly, tidy appearance better than any other kind I know. The chickens are hardy and easy to rear; I very seldom lose any, and I have noticed that they are more clever in the treatment of themselves when they get out of order, they will generally fast until eating is no longer injurious. I should like to know if you have noticed this peculiarity in the Brahma. I believe I am prejudiced in their favor, but it is from experience of their merits; perhaps, no, not exactly prejudiced, but convinced. I was amongst the first to import them rather largely, and after keeping them just over seven years I would not give them up for any other variety that I have tried."

The worst accusation their enemies can advance against them is, that no one knows their origin; but this is applicable to them only as it is when applied to Dorkings, Spanish, and all the other kinds which have been brought to perfection by careful breeding, working on good originals. All we have in England are descended from fowls imported from the United States, and the best account of them is, that a sailor (rather vague certainly) appeared in an American town (Boston or New York) with a new kind of fowl for sale, and that a pair bought from him were the parents of all the Brahmas. Uncertain as this appears, the accounts of those who pretend to trace their origin as cross-breeds, at least, equally so, and I believe we may just act towards the Brahma as we do with regard to Dorkings

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and other fowls, and be satisfied to possess a first-rate useful kind, although we may be unable to trace its genealogical tree back to the roof.

"Whatever may be their origin, I find them distinct in their characteristics. I have found them true to their points, generation after generation, in all the years that I have kept them. The new comb is very peculiar, and I have never had one chicken untrue in this, among all I have bred. Their habits are very unlike the Cochins. Although docile, they are much less inert; they lay a larger number of eggs, and sit less frequently. Many of my hens only wish to sit once a year; a few, often than that, perhaps twice or thrice; but never at the end of each small batch of eggs, as I find my equal favorites, almost the Cochins do."

"The division of light and dark Brahmas is a fancy of the judges, which any one who keeps them can humor, with a little care in breeding. My idea of their color is, that it should be black and gray (iron gray, with more or less of a blue tinge, and devoid of any brown), on a clear white ground, and I do not care whether the white or the marking predominates. I believe breeders could breed out if they would, when I say many fowls which pass muster as Brahmas are the result of a cross employed to increase size and procure the heavy color which some of the judges affect."

FALL CHICKENS FOR SPRING BROILERS.

It is reported that large numbers of late fall chickens are grown in some sections, fattened and killed to be put in cold storage to be sold as spring broilers about the time that the enterprising poultry keeper with incubators and a brooder house is able to offer those that he has hatched out in the winter, says the Mass. "Poughman." The chicken that has been in cold storage was often rather inferior when put in, and not too well fattened, and the long keeping has not improved the flavor, but has had a tendency to make it almost tasteless, but it costs less than the genuine spring broiler and helps to keep the price down. It is like the cold-storage egg, not quite as good as the fresh article, but near enough like it to be very often sold as fresh. It cannot be called an imitation, but it is a fraud when sold for what it might have been six months ago but is not now, a fresh-killed broiler chicken, and there should be a law to punish such frauds.

"FINE FEATHERS do not make fine birds," but our fancy poultry raisers breed for feather rather than meat and eggs. If this is not so, why is it that the mixed breed or dunghill fowls fill the coops and crates on the poultry market? If the fancy breeds are too expensive for the meat market they are certainly bred for fine feathers. The fine feathered birds are not to be despised as there are several breeds of good egg and meat producing fowls among the fancy chickens, but we could not refrain from saying a good word for the onery old biddy that scratches up the mortgage, buys the widow's luxuries and on rare occasions finds her way to the "Guard" man's plate.

—Centralls, Mo., Guard.

THE AGE OF EGGS may be approximately judged by taking advantage of







